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DOCKET: FIS920010162US1 PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

INVENTOR:	Charles L. Arvin et al.) EXAMINER:	Roberts P. Culbert
SERIAL NO.:	10/016,009))
FILING DATE:	October 30, 2001) ART UNIT:	1763
FOR:	A REWORK METHOD FOR FINISHING METALLURGY ON CHIP CARRIERS) DATE:	January 6, 2004

RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

Commissioner of Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

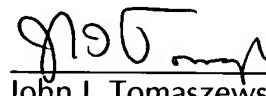
Responsive to the Office Action mailed December 9, 2003 and the restriction requirement made therein, applicants provisionally elect, with traverse, Group I, claims 1-5, drawn to a method for reworking an electronic component.

Applicants traverse the restriction requirement on the grounds that 35 U.S.C. § 121 authorizes restriction only when the claimed invention is "independent and distinct" (emphasis added). A search of the subject matter of Group II, claims 6-10, drawn to an apparatus for reworking an electronic component, and Group III, claims 11-15, drawn to a reworked electronic component reworked using the method of the claims of Group I,

would necessarily require a search of the subject matter of Group I, claims 1-5. It is submitted that the method claimed in Group I and the apparatus and reworked electronic component claimed in Groups II and III are not directed to independent and distinct matter.

Action on the merits of the claims of Groups I, II and III is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,


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CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service on the date indicated below as first class mail in an envelope addressed to the Mail Stop, Commissioner of Patents, P. O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

Name: Carol M. Thomas Date: January 6, 2004 Signature: 